

### REMARKS

This is a resubmission of the Preliminary Amendment which was submitted on July 11, 2003 (with the filing of the application), but was apparently unsigned.

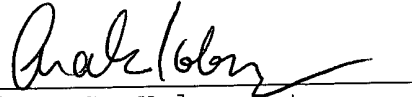
This is a Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified patent application, which is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/744,706, filed January 30, 2001. That application was a national stage application based on International Application Serial No. PCT/EP99/05443, filed July 29, 1999. Clean and marked-up versions of the Substitute Specification submitted in the parent application were previously submitted with the filing of this application. Please note that the Substitute Specification includes the correction to paragraph 18 which was entered in the parent application. Entry of this correction (i.e., in paragraph 18 of the Substitute Specification) is likewise requested in this application.

By this Amendment, Claims 1-4 have been cancelled. New Claims 5-16 have been added to the application.

Applicants believe that no fee is due with this Amendment. However, if a fee is due, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Favorable consideration of the claims is respectfully  
requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew G. Kolomayets  
Registration No. 33,723

COOK, ALEX, MCFARRON, MANZO,  
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.  
200 West Adams Street - Suite 2850  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312)236-8500